

Message Text

SECRET

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47 46

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 DODE-00 CIAE-00 INRE-00

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FM USDEL SALT TWO GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2358

S E C R E T SALT TWO GENEVA 0119

EXDIS/SALT

DEPT ALSO PASS DOD

SPECAT EXCLUSIVE FOR SECDEF

FOR: U. ALEXIS JOHNSON

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y - E.O., TAGS AND SUBJECT ADDED.

TAGS: PARM

SUBJ: HIGHLIGHTS: MAY-SHCHUKIN MEMCON A-658, DTD 16 OCT. 1974

P.M. (SALT TWO -475)

1. RESTRAINT AND REDUCTIONS: SHCHUKIN TOLD MAY THAT A REDUCTION IN THE NUMBER OF B-52'S ALONE WOULD NOT BE DEEMED MEANINGFUL IN THE SOVIET UNION, BECAUSE IT WAS EXPECTED THAT THE U.S. WOULD PHASE OUT THE B-52'S WITH OR WITHOUT AN AGREEMENT. ASKED WHAT HE WWOULD CONSIDER TO BE MEANINGFUL REDUCTIONS, HE SAID HE THOUGHT IT WOULD BE MEANINGFUL IF THE U.S. DID NOT EXERCISE ITS RIGHT UNDER INTERIM AGREEMENTTO PUT LARGER MISSILES IN THE MINUTEMAN SILOS.

2.MAY ASKED SHCHUKIN WHAT HIS IDEA ON RESTRAINTS OR REDUCTIONS FOR THE SOVIET SIDE WERE. SHCHUKIN MADE TWO SUGGESTIONS: (1) THE MIRVING OF SOVIET SLBMS MIGHT WELL BE DELAYED OR DEFERRED FOR THE PERIOD OF THE AGREEMENT; (2) ONCE SUBMARINES WERE PROVIDED WITH LONG RANGE MISSILES, SOME OF THE RATIONALE FOR THE DISPARITY IN NUMBERS OF SUB-

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MARINES AND SLBMS PROVIDED FOR IN THE INTERIM AGREEMENT

WOULD DISAPPEAR. THE SOVIET UNION MIGHT THEN NOT EXERCISE ITS RIGHT TO CONVERT A CERTAIN NUMBER OF LAND BASED MISSILES INTO SLBMS. HE DID NOT SAY WHETHER THE SOVIET UNION WOULD DISMANTLE THESE LAND BASED MISSILES INSTEAD.

3. SOVIET DELEGATION ATTITUDE: SHCHUKIN CONFIRMED THAT THE SOVIET DELEGATION WAS ENGAGING IN MORE CONCRETE DISCUSSIONS IN THE PAST FEW DAYS. ADDING THAT THERE WAS WORK FOR THE DELEGATIONS TO DO ON POSSIBLE AREAS FOR NEW AGREEMENTS, EVEN WHILE HIGHER LEVEL MEETINGS WERE GOING ON IN MOSCOW, HE SAID THAT IT WAS TIME FOR NEGOTIATIONS. JOHNSON

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

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